

REMARKS

The last Office Action has been carefully considered. The Examiner required corrections to claims 1, 14, 15 and 28 to clear up informalities therein (pg. 3 of the Office Action). These claims have now been amended to overcome the objections thereto.

As to the objections of claims 1-8, 10-22 and 24-28 under 37 CFR 1.75(a), applicant notes that part (d) of the independent claims have been amended to provide antecedent basis for the term "the client side".

As to part (j) of the independent claims, applicant submits that the geographical elements i.e., river, street, building, etc., are modified into vector data and are stored in the spatial database. The geographical elements are modified into vector data by users and stored as vector data in the spatial database. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the now amended independent claims clearly recites the feature and no further amendment hereto is believed necessary.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully solicited that parts j, l and g are correct in terms of their recitation.

In view of the amendment to the independent claims, the term "spatial information" is now believed to be used correctly.

Applicant has not been differentiating between raster images and geographical map images. What applicant has been attempting to state is that the geographical map images are "raster data" which are stored in "geographical map image database (1)". The data (raster data) will be separated into layers according to various resolutions using a wavelet composer engine and being compressed before being sent over the internet.

While geographical elements such as a river, a street, a building, etc., would be modified into a series of x, y coordinates and the vector data would be stored in the spatial database. When a user retrieves the raster images from the geographical map database, the "spatial information and map viewer (6)" together with "management information systems (9)" will retrieve "vector data" from the spatial database which corresponds or is related to the raster images.

Claims 1-28 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over Maruyama, Budge, Ogawa, Ratnaker, Yonezawa and Barros. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection for the following reasons:

Independent claims 1, 14, 15 and 28 have been amended herein.

Barros relates to a topical database. The data in Barros' topical database are layers of raster data of geographical elements that are not modified into vector data. The advantage of converting or modifying geographical elements into vector data (as now recited in amended independent claims 1, 14 15 and 28) is

the convenience in calculating the relation between each geographical element, e.g., to find the nearest crossroad from the user's location. The system must then locate the user's location and then calculate where the crossroad which is nearest the location of the user. This is impossible to do for raster data.

Accordingly, the claimed invention as now recited in amended independent claims 1, 14, 15 and 28 and the rest of the claims which depend thereupon, are not suggested or shown by the cited prior art of the last Office Action.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the claims remaining in the present application be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this AMENDMENT is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop: Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on August 25, 2005.

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